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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORT TOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg

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EVALUATION  25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 25 November 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. On 30 October 1953, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including 800 to 900 troops with tank insignia. Ten to 15 trucks, about 50 T-34 tanks, including  JS-3 tank  and 1 JSU-122 gun were seen in front of the tank sheds. Between 10 and 30 October, major groups of soldiers received infantry training with and without weapons in the barracks yard. Units up to 100 men were repeatedly seen marching to the Teuchel training area. Radio trucks  and trucks and sedans  were seen en route to and from the installation:

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2. On 30 October, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with tank insignia. Source believed that the installation was occupied as previously by a tank and a maintenance unit. Tanks in need of repair arrived at the installation from the Beseler Kaserne and the Arado installation. On 28 October, 8 T-34/85 tanks,  were seen in front of the tank sheds of the installation. Groups of soldiers received infantry training in the barracks yard and groups up to 200 troops returned from the Euper training area.

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3. On 30 October, the Arado installation was occupied by an estimated 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 200 troops with tank insignia. The small quartering building was occupied by about 100 to 120 soldiers with tank insignia. Except for 25 soldiers of the maintenance unit, they belonged to the tank crews. The large quartering building was occupied by about 200 recruits. During the second half of October, 4 JSU-122 guns,

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25X1 2 JS-3 tanks and 12 T-34/85 tanks [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted] were seen in the installation. In late October, the  
 installation quartered 31 tank trucks.<sup>2</sup>

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25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. The occupation strength of the Beseler Kaserne and the  
 Flak Kaserne, in late October, did not yet correspond to a full occu-  
 pation by each two tank regiments. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] the 53d Gds Tank Regt had not yet returned to the Flak  
 Kaserne from Werder-Markendorf by late October. Elements of the 78th Gds  
 Hv Tank SP Regt stationed in the Beseler Kaserne presumably did not yet  
 return either.

25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the Arado installation  
 25X1 is occupied as previously by the tank training battalion.

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